

Conservation Activity Evaluation Tool

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

CSP-2017-1_MT - Ag Land_Farmstead

Soil Erosion

Sheet and Rill Erosion

Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met	
Screening level: Permanent ground cover $> 90\%$ and slope $< 10\%$. Assessment level: The water erosion rate is $<=$ T.	Yes	No 🗌
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation '	Test Met
All non-traffic areas are vegetated.	Yes	No 🗌
All temporary or permanent rills and gullies are stabilized. All areas expected to have high erosion rates are stable.	Yes	No 🗌
Wind Erosion		
Planning Criteria	Planning Cı	riteria Met
Screening level: Permanent ground cover $> 90\%$ and slope $< 10\%$. Assessment level: The wind erosion rate is $<=$ T.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation '	Test Met
All temporary or permanent rills and gullies are stabilized. All areas expected to have high erosion rates are stable.	Yes	No 🗌
All non-traffic areas are vegetated.	Yes	No 🗌



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Classic Gully Erosion

Planning Criteria	Planning Cr	iteria Met
Screening level: Classic gullies are not present. Assessment level: Classic gully management is adequate to stop the progression of head cutting and widening and are offsite impacts are minimized by vegetation and/or structures.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation T	Test Met
All temporary or permanent rills and gullies are stabilized. All areas expected to have high erosion rates are stable.	Yes	No 🗌
Water runoff from hard surfaces, such as building roofs, is controlled to the point that is does not cause erosion or large streams of water.	Yes	No
Soil erosion in areas integrated with trees is controlled. There are no impacts on sensitive vegetation. There are no occurrences or enlargement of gullies.	Yes	No
reambank, Shoreline, Water Conveyance Channels		
Planning Criteria	Planning Cr	iteria Met
Screening level: Streams, shoreline or channels are not adjacent to site. Assessment level: For shorelines and water conveyance channels; banks are stable or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes, AND if bank erosion is present, it is beyond the client's control or commensurate with normal geomorphological processes, AND for streambanks, SVAP2 bank condition element score > 5.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation 7	Test Met
Excluding all fundamentally unstable, natural geomorphic streambanks/shorelines, all streambanks/shorelines on the operation show few signs of erosion or bank failure. Each is stable and protected with natural materials.	Yes	No



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Excess Water

Runoff and Flooding and Ponding

Planning Criteria	Planning C	Criteria Met
Screening level: Ponding or flooding not a problem AND activities do not cause ponding/flooding problems. Assessment level: Excess water is managed to meet client's objectives.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation	Test Met
Water runoff from hard surfaces, such as building roofs, is controlled to the point that it does not cause flooding or ponding	Yes	No 🗌



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Water Quality Degradation

Pesticides in Surface Water

	Planning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met
	Screening level: Pest control chemicals are not applied. Assessment level: Pesticides are stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching AND conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize surface water impacts.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met
	Pesticides are applied using a site-specific mixture of prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression (PAMS) strategies. Environmental risk screening tool are used (such as WIN-PST or similar LGU approval tool). Application rates and timing are compliant with the label and the conservation plan.	Yes	No
<u>Pe</u>	sticides in Ground Water		
	Planning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met
	Screening level: Pest control chemicals are not applied. Assessment level: Pesticides are stored, handled, disposed and managed to prevent runoff, spills, leaks and leaching AND conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize ground water impacts.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met
	Pesticides are applied using a site-specific mixture of prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression (PAMS) strategies. Environmental risk screening tool are used (such as WIN-PST or similar LGU approval tool). Application rates and timing are compliant with the label and the conservation plan.	Yes	No



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Nutrients in Surface Water

Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met		Planning Criteria Met
Screening level: Organic or inorganic nutrients are not applied AND the PLU is not grazed AND there are no confined livestock areas. Assessment level: Conservation practices and managements are in place to minimize surface water impacts AND surface waters are protected from contamination due to runoff and leaching from storage sites, spill and other concentrated sources.	Yes	No	
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation T	est Met	
Manure and untreated runoff from animal pens, feedlots, or similar AFO is stopped from entering nearby streams, drainage ditches, and irrigation ditches.	Yes	No	
Livestock access to stream is controlled OR limited to small watering or crossing areas.	Yes	No	
Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or	Compost A	pplications	
in Surface Water	•	* *	
Planning Criteria	Planning Cri	teria Met	
Screening level: Potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals are not applied on the land. Assessment level: Organic materials are applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to surface water sources.	Yes	No	
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation T	est Met	
Manure and untreated runoff from animal pens, feedlots, or similar	Yes 🗌	No 🗌	
AFO is stopped from entering nearby streams, drainage ditches, and irrigation ditches.		110	



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Excess Pathogens and Chemicals from Manure, Bio-solids or Compost Applications in Ground Water

	Planning Criteria	Planning Crit	eria Met
	Screening level: Potential sources of pathogens or pharmaceuticals are not applied on the land. Assessment level: Organic materials are applied, stored, and/or handled to mitigate negative impacts to groundwater sources.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	est Met
	Any water well(s) is located at least 100 feet from animal pens, feedlots, or similar AFO. Runoff from these areas is treated. An impervious barrier around the well prevents seepage into the groundwater.	Yes	No
<u>Pe</u>	troleum, Heavy Metal and Other Pollutants Transported t	o Surface W	<u>ater</u>
	Planning Criteria	Planning Crit	eria Met
	Screening level: Activities do not present the potential for contamination by petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants. Assessment level: Petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants are stored and handled to avoid runoff to surface water.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	est Met
	The fuel storage area and tank is located: - above the 100-year floodplain, - a minimum of 100 feet from any river, stream, ditch, pond, lake, sinkhole, wetland, or water well, and - within a stable place designed to provide secondary containment if the primary means were to fail.	Yes	No



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Petroleum, Heavy Metal and Other Pollutants Transported to Ground Water

	Planning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met
	Screening level: Activities do not present the potential for contamination by petroleum, heavy metals and other pollutants. Assessment level: Petroleum, heavy metals or other potential pollutants are stored and handled to avoid runoff to groundwater.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met
	The fuel storage area and tank is located: - above the 100-year floodplain, - a minimum of 100 feet from any river, stream, ditch, pond, lake, sinkhole, wetland, or water well, and - within a stable place designed to provide secondary containment if the primary means were to fail.	Yes	No
Ex	acessive Sediment in Surface Water		
	Planning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met
	Screening level: Permanent ground cover $> 90\%$ and slope $< 10\%$ AND classic gullies are not present AND streams or shoreline are not on or adjacent to site. Assessment level: Upslope treatment and buffer practices address concentrated flows to water bodies AND the SVAP2 - bank condition $>= 5$ AND the livestock and vehicle water crossings are stable AND The water erosion rate is $<=$ T AND wind erosion rate is $<=$ T.	Yes	No
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met
	The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: - have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, - extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater, AND - have few places where concentrated runoff flows through.	Yes	No
	All small, temporary or permanent rills and gullies are stabilized.	Yes	No 🗌



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Elevated Water Temperature

Planning Criteria	Planning Cri	iteria Met
Screening level: Water courses on or adjacent to the site are not designated by a State Agency as a temperature impairment OR water course temperature is not a client concern. Assessment level: The SVAP2 - riparian area quality element score is >= 5 AND the SVAP2 - riparian area quantity quality element score is >= 5 AND the SVAP2 - canopy cover element score is >= 6, OR existing conservation practices are in place to address water temperature.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation T	est Met
More than 50 percent of the water surface is shaded on the length of the stream/river you control.	Yes	No 🗌



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Air Quality Impacts

Emissions of Particulate Matter (PM) and PM Precursors

	ing Criteria	Planning Crite	eria ivici
agricu compl chemi Prescr bindin applie manag	ning level: Activities are not present that contribute to altural source PM or PM precursor emissions AND episodes or laints of emissions of PM (dust, smoke, exhaust, etc.), or ical drift have not occurred. PM producing activity examples are: ribed Burn is conducted, Travel ways unpaved or untreated with ng agents, Engines (combustion source), Tillage, Pesticides are ed, Fertilization (manure/commercial), CAFO/manure gement). Assessment level: PM and PM Precursor emmissions anaged to meet client objectives.	Yes	No
Evalu	nation Tests	Evaluation Te	st Met
Dust i	is controlled on all non-vegetated, unpaved travel ways.	Yes	No
Emission	n of Greenhouse Gases (GHGs)		
Plann	ning Criteria	Planning Crite	eria Met
Screen emissi Fertili Engin in this	ning Criteria ning level: Activities are not present that produce GHGs ions. GHG producing activities are: ization(manure/commercial), CAFO/manure management, les (combustion source), Tillage, AND GHGs are not regulated as planning area. Assessment level: Greenhouse gas emmissions anaged to meet client objectives.	Planning Crite Yes	eria Met
Screen emissi Fertili Engin in this are ma	ning level: Activities are not present that produce GHGs ions. GHG producing activities are: ization(manure/commercial), CAFO/manure management, les (combustion source), Tillage, AND GHGs are not regulated a planning area. Assessment level: Greenhouse gas emmissions		No



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<u>Degraded Plant Condition</u>

Inadequate Structure and Composition

Planning Criteria	Planning Cı	riteria Met
Screening level: Plant communities support the intended land use and desired ecological functions. Assessment level: Plant communities contain adequate diversity, composition and structure to support desired ecological functions.	Yes	No 🗌
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation '	Test Met
The forest or woodlot is fully stocked with tree species adapted to the site, has spacing for good tree growth and air flow between and beneath, does not have excessive tree mortality, has an understory made up of desirable species and is not inhibited by brush or other undesirable vegetation Excessive Plant Pest Pressure	Yes	No
Planning Criteria	Planning Cı	riteria Met
Screening level: Plant productivity is not limited from pest pressure. Assessment level: Pest damage to plants are below economic or environmental thresholds or client-identified criteria AND plant pests, including noxious and invasive species are managed to meet client objectives.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation '	Test Met
Invasive and noxious weeds are controlled or not present.	Yes	No 🗌



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Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation

Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met	
Screening level: Wildfire hazards is not a concern. Assessment level: Fuel loads and fuel ladders are managed to provide defensible space and meet client objectives.	Yes	No 🗌
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation	Test Met
Fire risk to sensitive sites are controlled by treatment, removal or modification of vegetation, debris and detritus in a strip or area.	Yes	No 🗌



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Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat

Inadequate Habitat - Food

Planning Criteria	Planning Cr	iteria Met
Assessment level: The WHSI rating is >= 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - fish habitat complexity element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR food is available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation 7	Test Met
Designated areas are planted as food and habitat for pollinators/beneficial insects. For example, planted to nectar and pollen producing plants and protected from disruptionchemical, biological, or mechanical.	Yes	No
The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: - have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, AND - extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater.	Yes	No
Plant growth and cover is managed to develop and maintain habitat to help chosen wildlife species. <see action="" plan="" state="" wildlife=""></see>	Yes	No 🗌



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Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter

Planning Criteria	Planning Cri	teria Met
Assessment level: The WHSI rating is >= 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - barriers to movement element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - fish habitat complexity element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR cover is of available quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest.	Yes	No
Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met	
Dead and/or down trees are intentionally left in the forest to provide wildlife cover.	Yes	No 🗌
Large, old, and/or "wolf" trees are intentionally retained in the forest to provide wildlife shelter. For example, trees with gnarled appearance, loose bark, or cavities.	Yes	No
Livestock access to stream is controlled OR limited to small watering or crossing areas	Yes	No 🗌
The land adjacent to a stream, river, or other waterbody on the side or sides you control does: - have diverse, natural plant cover typical to that along streams in your area, AND - extend from the stream bank/shoreline for a distance of 35 feet or (if applicable) the minimum State buffer-width requirement, whichever is greater.	Yes	No



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Inadequate Habitat - Water

	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met				
	Assessment level: The WHSI rating is $>= 0.5$ AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is $>= 7$, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR water is available in quality and extent to support habitat requirements for the species of interest.	Yes	No			
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met				
	Plant cover provides access to water that is at the right height and/or depth for wildlife species.	Yes	No			
	Water for habitat is at the right height, depth and time of year for wildlife species of concern	Yes	No			
<u>Inadequate Habitat - Habitat Continuity (Space)</u>						
	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met				
	Assessment level: The WHSI rating is >= 0.5 AND (when surface stream present) the SVAP2 - barriers to movement element score is >= 7 AND the SVAP2 - aquatic invertebrate habitat element score is >= 7, OR conservation practices and managements are in place that meet or exceed species or guild-specific habitat model thresholds, OR The connectivity of habitat components are adequate to support stable populations of targeted species.	Yes	No			
	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met				
	People, vehicles, equipment, or livestock are only moved across a stream/river at a bridge, culvert, or stabilized ford crossing(s). Travel across the stream/river beyond these crossings is controlled.	Yes	No			
	In-stream structures (dam, diversion structure, bridge, culvert, low-water stream crossing, etc.) allow for the upstream/downstream movement of fish and other aquatic animals throughout most of the year.	Yes	No			



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<u>Inefficient Energy Use</u>

Equipment and Facilities

]	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met			
f U 6	Screening level: Client is not interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency. Assessment level: Major components of a USDA approved energy audit have been implemented that address equipment and facilities to meet client objectives OR On-farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices have been implemented to meet client objectives.	Yes	No		
]	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met			
	Energy loss from lighting, drying, refrigeration, cooling, heating, or building insulation has been improved.	Yes	No 🗌		
Farming/Ranching Practices and Field Operations					
]	Planning Criteria	Planning Criteria Met			
f U 6	Screening level: Client is not interested in improving equipment and facilities energy efficiency. Assessment level: Major components of a USDA approved energy audit have been implemented that address equipment and facilities to meet client objectives OR On-farm renewable energy and/or energy conserving practices have been implemented to meet client objectives.	Yes	No		
]	Evaluation Tests	Evaluation Test Met			
	Energy loss from driven equipment, irrigation, or pumping has been mproved.	Yes	No 🗌		